

Abstract

A method and system to prevent auto theft from parking areas, such as airport parking lots, includes a ticket dispenser, at an entry gate, which issues a numbered ticket to each driver. The driver is advised to carry the ticket with him and not to leave it in the car. At the same time the ticket is issued, the a part of its license plate number, is automatically determined and entered into computer memory, in association with the ticket number. At the exit, the ticket is presented by the driver, read by a ticket reader, and its associated license plate data is retrieved from computer memory. Also at the exit, part of the license plate of the car is again automatically obtained and compared with the license plate data retrieved from the computer memory. In the event of a mismatch, a warning signal is generated.